

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are all the claims pending in the application. This Response, submitted in reply to the Office Action dated April 10, 2008, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Preliminary Matters

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for granting the interview of March 26, 2008, and for withdrawing the Final Office Action of November 28, 2008 based on the arguments in the Response filed February 28, 2008 and the Interview of March 26, 2008.

Further, Applicant notes that an article (Lomasky, L.E. Autonomy and Automobility. Independent Review, Vol. 2, No. 1, Summer 1997, p. 5) was attached to the Non-Final Office Action of April 10, 2008. This article was not listed on the Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) and Applicant respectfully requests that the article be listed on a PTO Form 892.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12 and 14-17

Claims 1-12¹, and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Cahill et al. (US 2002/0099574; henceforth “Cahill”), and further in view of Panico (US 2003/0162536). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Cahill discloses storing camping pad attribute information for camping pads, obtaining reservation request information and providing

¹ The Office Action indicates that that claims 1-5 and 7-12 are rejected in based on this combination of references. However, claim 6 is also rejected in this section.

an indication of one or more camping pads based on the respective camping pad attribute information. The Examiner acknowledges that Cahill fails to teach storing camping vehicle attribute information for a given camping vehicle as recited. However, the Examiner asserts that Panico cures this deficiency by teaching storing camping vehicle attributes for a given camping vehicle and obtaining reservation request information concerning the camping facility and the given camping vehicle. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has misconstrued the applied references.

Claim 1 recites:

“A **camping facility** reservation method, for making a camping facility reservation, comprising:
storing respective **camping pad attribute information** for **camping pads of a camping facility**;
storing **camping vehicle attribute information** for a given **camping vehicle**;
obtaining reservation request information concerning the **camping facility** and the **given camping vehicle**; and
providing an indication of one or more **candidate camping pads based on the respective camping pad attribute information** of the camping pads of the camping facility and the **camping vehicle attributes for the given camping vehicle**.”

Cahill is directed to a system and method of electronically reserving a space for parking a vehicle in urban parking lots. *See* Paragraphs [0002]-[0003]. This system allows a user to reserve a parking space in advance of a special event or shortly before it is needed via a communications network and to specify the size of the space they need and preferences regarding location. *See* Paragraphs [0004]-[0007]. The system includes information about the size and location of parking spaces which is used to find a space capable of meeting user's requests. *See* Paragraph [0010]. However, as the Examiner correctly acknowledges Cahill does not teach storing camping vehicle attributes as recited in claim 1.

Panico is directed to a method and system for cooperative parking space discovery and transfer. Panico teaches a system wherein a vehicle occupying a space sends a “space offered” message via a wireless mobile communications network to a central control system. *See* Abstract. Further, Panico teaches that another vehicle sends a “space requested” message to the same central control center. *See* Abstract. The central control system then dispatches a message telling the vehicle offering the space to wait, while the vehicle requesting a space is told to go to the location of the space being offered. *See* Abstract. Panico also teaches that the geometry, make, model, year, and color of the car are stored in the wireless device and sent to the central control system to determine if the vehicle will fit in the available space. *See* Paragraph [0030]. However, both Cahill and Panico are directed to reserving and assigning parking spaces, not camping pads. Applicant submits that parking spaces are very different from camping pads.

As described in the specification, a camping pad is a location to which a camping vehicle is driven and/or towed and set up to allow a user to **camp** for a period of time. *See* Paragraphs [0006]-[0009]. As described above, camping vehicles have a number of features, including tip-out sections, and telecommunications, power, water, and sewage hookups which allow the camping vehicles to have many of the amenities of a home. *See* Paragraphs [0012]-[0013]. When a camping vehicle is set up on a camping pad, the tip-out sections are deployed and the hookups connected to the camping pad, which requires specific information about placement and orientation of the features of camping pad and the camping vehicle beyond size and location in order for the camping pad to be used **for camping**.

Conversely, as would be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art, when an occupant parks a vehicle in a parking space, especially in urban parking lots, the vehicle is parked and the occupants **exit the vehicle and leave the parking lot**. When the occupants of the vehicle return

to the vehicle, the occupants **remove the vehicle from the parking space** and leave the parking lot. An occupant **does not camp** in the vehicle while it is parked in the parking lot and therefore does not deploy any tip-out portions the vehicle may have and does not connect the vehicle to any telecommunications, electrical, water, or sewage hookups. A camping pad is designed to allow the occupant of a camping vehicle to **live in the vehicle** and have many of the comforts of home. On the other hand, a parking space is designed to allow an occupant to **store a vehicle while the occupant is elsewhere**.

Applicant submits that a system concerned with reserving and assigning camping pads requires significantly different information about the vehicles and camping pads compared to a system for reserving and transferring parking spaces. Therefore, Applicant submits that the combination of Cahill and Panico fails to teach or even suggest “storing respective camping pad attribute information for camping pads of a camping facility; storing camping vehicle attribute information for a given camping vehicle; obtaining reservation request information concerning the camping facility and the given camping vehicle” as recited in claim 1.

Further, Cahill and Panico are not at all concerned with camping vehicles or camping facilities. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1, and all claims dependant thereon are patentable over the applied references. Further, Applicant also submits that to the extent that claims 4 and 15 recite features similar to claim 1, claims 4 and 15 are patentable for reasons analogous to those discussed above.

Further, claim 7 depends from claim 4, and recites “wherein the camping vehicle attribute information comprises one or more of sewer connection information, water connection information, and phone line connection information.” The Examiner asserts that this feature is taught in paragraph [0037] of Cahill and asserts that Cahill teaches phone connections. The

section cited by the Examiner merely teaches that a reservation can be made over the phone, or through a network connection (wired or wireless). This section does not teach storing information about the telephone, water, and sewage hookups of a perspective camping vehicle in a database so that this information can be used in making reservations.

As discussed above, a parking space, especially in an urban parking lot, does not have connections for phone lines, sewer and water hookups because they are designed for vehicle storage, not camping. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 7 is patentable over the applied references for this additional reason.

Further, claim 11 depends from claim 4, and recites “wherein the camping vehicle attribute information comprises information regarding expandable portions of the camping vehicle.” As discussed above, camping vehicles may have tip-out portions which provide additional internal living space when the vehicle is setup on a camping pad. These tip-out portions expand outward from different areas of the vehicle and require additional clearance to be deployed.

The Examiner acknowledges that Cahill does not teach storing camping vehicle information but asserts that Panico cures this deficiency. Panico merely stores information regarding the size and geometry of the vehicle and does not consider the vehicle having portions which may tip out. Further, as discussed above, a parking space is designed for vehicle storage and is not concerned with allowing an occupant to camp in the vehicle. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 11 is patentable over the applied reference for this additional reason.

Claim 13

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cahill, and further in view of Panico, and further in view of Inokuchi (US 2004/0080510). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection..

Claim 13 depends from claim 4 which has been shown above to be patentable over the Cahill and Panico references. Inokuchi fails to cure the deficiencies of Cahill and Panico. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

Further, Claim 13 recites “wherein the camping vehicle attribute information comprises the number of people who will be staying at the camping facility.” The Examiner acknowledges that Cahill and Panico fail to teach this feature, but asserts that Inokuchi cures this deficiency. Inokuchi is directed to an information display and merely teaches providing a symbol to show a particular class of information accessed by a person. Inokuchi provides no teaching regarding “a number of people who will be staying at a camping facility” as recited in claim 13. Further, Inokuchi is not at all concerned with a camping vehicle or a camping facility. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable over the applied references for at this additional reason.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880 via EFS payment screen. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Ruthleen E. Uy/

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Ruthleen E. Uy
Registration No. 51,361

Date: August 7, 2008